

From Melissa Gibson <alohamelissag@hotmail.com>

Sent Friday, October 15, 2010 2:04 pm

To hihwmanagementplan@noaa.gov

Subject Please don't restrict our beaches

Aloha

I am a resident of Kauai and enjoy the beauty and recreation that the waters around our island provide. I do believe that our ocean animals do deserve to be protected. I also believe that the people that live on Kauai greatly enjoy the pleasures the ocean provides. I am a surfer, swimmer and kayaker and I greatly appreciate the ocean and the creatures that live in it. I know that animals can be protected and the ocean can be available for all to enjoy. There must be a balance and I know balance can work. Please do not restrict what beaches we are able to use. If you need to put some rules in place to protect our animals, how about banning sonar blasting from the military base on the westside, how about banning the war games that go on right off our shore. How about making stricter rules about sewage and chemicals that make it to our ocean. The normal recreation that residents and visitor enjoy does little harm to the sea animals. Believe me I am an animal lover and if I thought that my surfing in the ocean was endangering an animals life I wouldn't do it. Please think about what would happen if you close access to surf breaks, beaches and fishing rights. Many will not be happy. Please consider the overall picture and protect the ocean and protect the recreation we so love in the ocean.

Mahalo for your time

Melissa Anderson

Puhi Kauai Hawaii